

TORN PAGES

THE ATHENS POST.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

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TERMS:

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THE POST.

ATHENS, FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1851.

IMPORTANT CONTROVERSY.—There has been a rather interesting controversy going on among the Nashville papers, which, from the noise it has made, bids fair to become the issue of the gubernatorial canvass, at least with the Nashville papers. It has already been carried so far as to assume almost the character of ridicule, and it is to be hoped will soon be laid aside and give place to something of more importance. The Nashville Gazette takes the matter down about right in the following paragraph:

GREAT EXCITEMENT.—The political papers of this city are waxing warm in regard to a matter of much importance, and intimately connected with the merits of the war with Mexico. The lesser questions arising out of that war seem all to have been settled, or at least, all controversy in regard to them seems to have ceased, but the most exciting question of all—in fact the question, without the settlement of which the war has been but a useless waste of treasure and blood, and all its honors must remain in *nubibus*—has been left unsettled, to inflame the angry passions of sapient editors and learned antiquaries. Even that renowned interrogatory, which originated in another historic fight—"who struck Billy Patterson?"—has been unheard for a week, and the burden of newspaper loaders, and the question upon the lips of every private citizen, has been, "who said, 'Boys follow me?'" Whoever did say it, can win in the future political contests in this State. Whoever didn't say it, had better hang up his fiddle—or, in sentimental phrase, had better—

"—hang his harp on a willow tree,
And forth to the wars again."

WHIG LEADERS AND WHIG ALLEGIANCE.—We presume it will not be disputed that every political party to be successful must have its head, who, by consent of the majority of the members, becomes the impersonation of the party's principles and the practical exponent of its line of policy. A party can scarcely be said to be organized until it is agreed as to who shall be its presiding genius. In proportion to its success will be felt the necessity for such a head, or ruling mind. As the party approaches that acme of its triumph, the incumbency of the Presidential office, this necessity presses so heavily that the leadership becomes more and more rigidly defined, until he who is nominated for that office stands before the country, endorsed by his entire party as the embodiment of their principles and legislative policy; and it follows that if he reaches the honor to which his party desire to elevate him, he assumes toward them more than ever the relationship of a leader and representative. Now we hold that just this relation does President Fillmore hold toward the whig party of the Union; and in this relationship his entire Cabinet participate. They are the men whom he has selected to assist him in performing those duties, and sharing those labors and responsibilities, which the whigs—and through them the majority of the people—have imposed upon him as their head.

MERMAIDS.—The existence of those famous dwellers in the sea, half women and half fish, called mermaids, has been doubted by many, but we are assured that they are quite plenty on the coasts of Scotland and Ireland, where women eat large quantities of the roes or spawn of fish.

If cotton cloth be dipped into a very weak solution of glue, and afterwards in a hot and very strong solution of alum, and then dried at high temperature, it is said it will be water proof.

Five hundred and thirty-eight years have passed since the last Grand Master of the Knights Templars, Jacques Molay, was burned alive at Paris, upon the little island above the city, near the place where now stands the statue of Henry the Fourth upon the Pont Neuf. Despite the persecution, the society of Templars has continued to exist, from age to age, even to our day. It has lately had its annual celebration at Paris, when several new members were admitted.

For the Post. TRIBUTE OF RESPECT.

At a called meeting of Hiwassee Division No. 269, Sons of Temperance, held on the evening of April 12th, 1851, the following preamble and resolutions offered by brothers Dr. Benj. Franklin and J. M. Miller, were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, We as an order have been visited by an omnipotent dispensation of Providence, it behooves us as such to submissively acknowledge the same, ever keeping in memory the high regard he entertained for the emblem of our Order—Love, Purity and Fidelity. In his past life we see most beautifully associated three of the most worthy and estimable traits of character belonging to our nature, viz: a kind and obliging neighbor—the ardent christian, and the zealous advocate for the cause of Temperance.

Resolved, That having learned of the death of our highly esteemed and much beloved brother, James C. Scarborough, who died at his residence in Calhoun, on the 12th instant, leaving a kind and affectionate wife and five small children to mourn his loss.

Resolved, That we as a Division, offer this as a testimonial of the high regard we have and will entertain for our departed brother.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family as evidence of the very high regard and deep sympathy which were entertained by our order for the family of a deceased brother.

Resolved, That our order wear the appropriate mourning for the space of thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Athens Post for publication.

By order of the Division,
H. CLAY BASINGER, R. S.

A WORD ON WALTZING.—The N. York Mirror occasionally "takes off at the knee" some of the fashionable follies of the day. The following on waltzing is from a late number of that paper:

"We claim to be neither old nor ascetic, nor even jealous of those amusements in which we are neither 'accomplished' nor accustomed to participate, but we are compelled to say, that the modern fashion of waltzing is an indecent exhibition that ought to be imperatively banished from respectable drawing rooms. It is one of those foreign importations that never should have been encouraged by the class of citizens who give character and tone to American society. It had its origin in the voluptuous orgies of the ungodly Parisians, and is a gross scandal even to that city of licentiousness. It is nothing but a hug and a whirl, and when a couple embrace for such a violent performance, modesty would suggest that every other person should leave the room.

And yet this waltzing seems to be the entire end and aim of the lives of all the 'fashionable young men' of New York. Many of them, we presume, have whirled through space enough during the past season, if reduced to a straight line, to reach across the Atlantic.

So accustomed are they to this ridiculous motion, that they cannot even walk the streets without tottering upon their toes. How unlike the sturdy youth who became the hero of the Revolution and the Fathers of the Republic! What a miserable master these dainty snips would make on an occasion 'to try men's souls.' Their children, too, if they ever have any, will be born to an inheritance of feebleness, and grow up candidates for the poor house. O for the good old days of Sir Roger de Coverley when strength, and not effeminacy, was considered the highest attribute of manhood. Think of Richard of the Lion Heart, and then look at a Broadway dancing dandy!"

DYING DECLARATION—IMPORTANT DECISION.—An important decision was made by Judge Baxter at Warren Superior Court which if sustained, will overrule a long established principle of Common Law and which has never heretofore to our knowledge, been disturbed.

Lovitt charged with the murder of Bell in the month of February last, was arraigned for trial and the state's counsel offered to introduce, as evidence, the declarations of the deceased made in his last illness and charging the offence to the prisoner. The counsel for Prisoner objected to the reception of such declarations as legal evidence in a criminal prosecution, and alleged in support of the exception, the sixth Article of Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, which, it was contended, amounted to an entire abolition of the Common Law upon the point in question. The Article reads as follows.

"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him," &c., &c.

The point was ably argued by Messrs. Toombs, Cone and Pottle for the prisoner, and Messrs. Weems, Sol Gattrell and Dawson for the State. The exception was sustained, and a note prosequi entered on the bill, the other testimony being, in the opinion of State's counsel, insufficient to convict. The decision may be law, but we feel no hesitation in saying it ought not to be.—*Washington Gazette.*

A GANG OF INCENDIARIES.

Utica, N. Y., April 10, 1851.

Our city police have recently brought to light one of the most extraordinary gang of incendiaries that ever cursed a community. Over \$150,000 worth of property has been destroyed by some forty-three or four different fires during the past eighteen months, embracing stores, hotels, dwelling houses, shops, lumber yards and churches—all of which now turn out to have been set on fire by some five or six young men attached to two engine companies. I should perhaps except two small fires. The proof against them is sufficient, and their conviction is certain, and it is more than probable that they will plead guilty. Some instances have been arson in the first degree, which is punishable by death. The most remarkable feature in the whole transaction is the utter want of motive to prompt to such enormity. The very men who put the torch to the building, worked the hardest at the fire. The young man who helped me to get into the study and save the library of our pastor, at the fire of our Church, was the identical person who went up to the steeple and set the edifice on fire. He is now in prison, awaiting his trial for arson in the first degree. The only reason assigned by the guilty parties is that they wanted a little fun and frolic, and that they went on undetected until they acquired a sort of mania for such excitement as the French do for suicide.

The London Times thus describes what is to be the result of the Union to the South if it goes on as it has been doing. Whether true or false, we leave our readers to judge:

"Slavery is but a question of time.—It is scarcely possible to conceive that a hundred years hence there will be one slave in the United States, not to say in the whole continent of America. The slave owners see the ramparts rising, the trenches opened, the communications established, and the blockade closing round them, that is one day to reduce them to unconditional surrender. We doubt not for an instant that our children's children, will see the claims drop in one hour from the limbs of three million slaves. The Fugitive Slave bill is only a last legislative effort against that which is more powerful than legislatures—the progress of human affairs. Every acre added to the territory of the Union, every freeman child added to its population, and every immigrant that lands on its shores, is another weight to the scale of abolition. Then why except because they are demoralized and doomed, do the slave owners take no steps whatever to prepare for the great day of reckoning? Why do they assure the perpetual stability of an institution at variance with the whole tenor and course of modern civilization? We do not hesitate to advise them to set their house in order. It is harder to do so now than it was seventy years back, instead of being easier, as the great statesman of that day hoped and expected—if time has hitherto aggravated rather than removed the enormous difficulties of the question, what will be the case thirty years hence, when perhaps there must and will be abolition without either the slave or his master being prepared for the change? The choice lies between gradual and sudden abolition, and it is for the slave States themselves to choose which of those two they will have—for one they must!"

COMMON LAW IN CALIFORNIA.—I must now give an illustration of California "common law" which I very much doubt whether my Lord Coke would call "the perfection of human reason." A man lost an anchor in a river not ten thousand miles from the Sacramento, and before he had an opportunity to raise it, another man did, and when he called on him for it, he was not disposed to receive anything for his trouble, nor to give up the anchor. The owner, not wishing to have any trouble, left him alone in his glory. But in a few days he lost another anchor! and in fact the same man raised this, took it into his possession, and refused to surrender it! This was more than "human nature" could bear, and the owner applied to a lawyer for redress.

"But how came you to let him have your anchors?" asked the legal limb.

"What made you let him? Didn't you know there is a law to prevent one man from taking another's property?"

"No, I didn't know there was any law in California."

"Didn't you know the common law was in existence here?"

"Yes, by G—, and the common law is the very law he took 'em by! He had a revolver on one side and a Bowie knife on the other!"

SAD SCENE.—A New York letter of Wednesday last, in the Philadelphia Ledger, says: "The police this morning, in a miserable hovel 693 Sixth-street, found a boy about 9 years old, lying in a dying condition near his dead mother, while his father, insensibly drunk, was lying in a stupor in another corner—one of the most shocking exhibitions of the effects of intemperance recorded in a long while. The father was conveyed to the station house, the boy to the hospital, while the Coroner was sent for to hold an inquest on the mother."

We clip the following from the New Orleans Picayune:

TO SLEEP, TO DIE.—Never was there a more practical and terrible application of Hamlet's memorable doubting, questioning, life-or-death soliloquy, than in the case of three negroes in Texas, two of whom—a man and his wife—were lately found by a return party of the Mexican Boundary Commission, in a state of starvation, having killed and nearly devoured their comrade. The Laredo paper says they had lived for many weeks on roots and such things as they could pick up, but finally becoming so nearly famished with hunger that one of the men proposed that they should cast lots to see which of the three should be killed and eaten by the others; but Henry would not agree that his wife should be killed, for if it should fall upon her to be killed he could not eat a mouthful of her. So the two men agreed that the first one that got to sleep should be killed by the other. Henry, who had his wife to help him, proved the most wakeful, and the other fell a victim to the demands of hunger.

The Maryville Herald contains the following advertisement:

A HUSBAND WANTED.—By a lady who can wash, cook, sew, milk, sweep, spin, weave, lace, (can't plough,) cut wood, make fires, feed the pigs, raise pigs, chickens, rook the cradle, (good rocker,) I thank you sir, saw plank, drive nails, &c. These are a few of the solid branches now for the ornamental. "Four times a day" she went as far as Syntax, in Murray's Grammar, and through two rules in Fife's Grammar. Could find six States on the Atlas. Could read, and you see she can write. Can—no, could paint roses, butterflies, whisks, &c., but now she can paint houses, white wash the fences, &c., could once dance: can ride a horse, donkey, or oxen, besides a great many things too numerous to be named. Oh! I hear you ask, can she scold? No, she can't, you good for—no—

Now for her terms. Her age is none of your business; she is neither handsome nor a fright, yet an old man need not apply, nor any who have not a little more education than she has, and a great deal more gold, for there must be \$20,000 settled on her before she will bind herself to perform all the above. Address, with real name, to Dorothy Scraggs, Post Office, Maryville, post paid.

A MARKET FOR WIVES.—We are almost afraid to publish the following statement, lest thousands of the "stricken dears" in this country should embark immediately with their wives, to constancy.

Mr. Brown, the American dragoon at Constantinople, who is now visiting the Turkish capital, writes to a friend in New York, that he has seen a great number of the "stricken dears" in this country, and that they are all very much improved. He says that he has seen a great number of the "stricken dears" in this country, and that they are all very much improved. He says that he has seen a great number of the "stricken dears" in this country, and that they are all very much improved.

Mrs. Fantadling says, that the idea that French women are not fond of husbands, is all gammon. She says she was not in Paris a week, before the gentlemen that she is married to was beset by half the women in the streets. Instead of French women having husbands, they dote on them, she says. All they ask is that they shall be somebody else's.

STORIES FOR CHILDREN.—Children are passionately fond of stories, and we copy the following to show how an old Dutchman gave his little son a story with a moral and practical application, all at once.

"Shon, mine shon," said a worthy German father to his hopeful heir of ten years, whom he had overheard using profane language. "Shon, mine shon!" come here, and I'll tell you a liddle story. Now, mine shon, shall I tell you a liddle story or a makes believe?"

"O," a true story, of course! answered John.

"Ferry vell den. Tere was vonce a goot nice old shentleman (shoost like me) and he had a titty liddle boy (shoost like you). And von day he heard him shwearing like young fillain as he vas. So he went to the winkel (corner) and dook out a cowhide, shoost as I am tuing now, and he took ter titty liddle plakgard by te collar, (dis vay, you see!) and volloped him shoost so! And den, mine tear shon, he pull his ears dis vay, and smack his face dat vay, and dell him to go mitout supper, shoost as you vill dis evening."

One day a loving husband took his wife's best pitcher to draw some cider. As he was going down the steps, he slipped and in order to save the crockery, injured himself considerably. While he was rubbing his shin very vigorously, the wife thought of his hurt, cried out, "Oh, mercy! have you broke that pitcher?" "No," says he, in great wrath, "but I'll be darned if I don't," and ging-a-ling went the pitcher against the wall.

An advertisement in one of the country papers in this State, gives the following as a part of the description of a runaway apprentice. "He is thick set, usually wears a glazed hat five feet high, and iron shoes with crossed eyes." If he would come into our settlement he would be easily recognized in this dress.

An English paper says the world's fair was got up expressly to enliven Queen Victoria, whose mind is suffering from insanity.

NATIONAL RIGHTS, STATE RIGHTS, COUNTY RIGHTS, PERSONAL RIGHTS, INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS, THE CONSTITUTION AND THE UNION, IS MY AXIOM.

Fellow-citizens of the counties of Polk, McMinn and Monroe:

I deem it all important for every man who may aspire to the office or power of Legislating, to set forth in public print the fundamental principles by which he holds, and a sketch of his political views, thereby giving the people a chance to read, meditate, and judge of his qualifications to fill the office he seeks.

Therefore, having put my name before you as a candidate for joint Representative in the next Legislature of Tennessee, I have headed in capitals, the words which will include all the principles that every true republican will hold, and set up to, when ever he is authorized on business, or empowered so to do.

Fellow-citizens, twenty years ago I was a candidate before you, and have been waiting ever since with anxious hope that there would be a change made by the Legislature in the judiciary system, and the laws so arranged as to cause more justice, more concord, and more unity of feeling among the people—as well as their best interest. I still retain the same feelings, as regards the judiciary, I did at that time, which many of you have not forgotten yet. But to put you in fresh remembrance, I will give a short detail of the way I think best calculated to effect what I have stated above.

The Legislature should establish in every Circuit Court District, at some suitable place, a place of confinement to labor, at which most all mechanical works could be carried on; then establish a Court in every Circuit District throughout the counties, to be held once a month and to set at any time required, to be composed of two justices and a jury of five to twelve men, as the case might require, and this Court to have cognizance of all civil and criminal cases that may occur or take place among the people, except murder; and the laws to be plain in setting forth the different kinds of human transgressions that are criminal, and the punishment annexed thereto, and let all such crimes be tried in this Court forthwith. (Subject, however, to a re-hearing or an appeal to the Circuit Court, by giving security, if they think they have not had a fair trial and that justice is not done them.)

And not send them to be confined in the county jail, and have the people taxed to pay the cost, but let them be sent to this place of work, and there be confined to labor so long as they shall be sentenced by this Court for the crime, and also to work on until they pay the cost of suit, allowing them reasonable wages by the month; and sending them to this place, after paying all cost incurred thereto, to be applied to the use of public schools in the district.

I must say a little about what is called the Poney Law, allowing men more property than half the men in the State have, and more than a great many would claim as their own, provided they had it. Fellow-citizens, we all know that there are a great many men in our section, as well as all over the State, that are just loitering about not engaged at work, but will trade and get hold of other men's property by fair promises, without paying for it, and at the same time never intended doing so, which should be regarded in law as criminal as though they had stolen it. Now, I am not against women and children being allowed something for a support, if they have it, but men who will get hold of other men's property and not pay for it, neither in property, work or money, I want them sent to this work establishment, and made to work at such wages as will justify the establishment, part of their wages to go to the support of their families, if they have any, and the balance to be paid, until the debt until it is paid. Some may think such a law would be pretty hard, but it would not be more hard for a man to be compelled to work and pay what he binds himself to do for another's property, than it was for him who sold that property.

I see, fellow-citizens, in the public prints, that whiskey is charged with the principal cause of most all dissensions and mischief among men. It does its part, I agree. It makes men speak and act more openly, when they have it in them, what their mind and feelings are when sober. But fix our courts and laws so as to restrain men from all unjust acts toward each other and such a change in society, among men, and such a change in society, which has never before been witnessed—I long to see the time, and I think the most of my fellow-citizens of this district would be happy to see the day. It may be said by some that the building of this establishment for work would be too easily for the districts to make. It is probable that one dollar tax to every hundred dollars worth of property, would be a means sufficient, and if such a plan would have such a desired effect as I think it would, I would rather pay two dollars on the hundred, than to be forever and eternally through life paying a high tax to keep up men's base and corrupt doings.

I see in the columns of the Athens Post that Judge Dilshanty has said, that "let the old act of 1798 be continued, the act of 1833 revised, and the 13th section of the act of 1846 be preserved, and we have then a perfect system on the subject of tipping, or selling of liquors." I think I can fix a better plan than the Judge's. Our government is founded on free and republican principles, and we have no authority to pass laws to prohibit men from making liquors, nor from drinking them, but we have authority to pass laws to punish men for their misconduct by drinking too much. I am for repealing the License Tipping Law, allowing a man to buy and drink his belly full at their tipping shops, but let every man, who may have liquors sell a man a gill if he wants it, which would be a decent dram, and would make nobody drunk that is in the habit of drinking, but if he lets him have it at his own house to drink, enough to make him drunk, and he

drinks a fuss or interrupts society, both the man that sells and the one that drinks shall be liable to a fine, but if a man gets the liquor in a vessel and goes off and drinks too much and interrupts society, he only shall be liable to a fine, and if he commits any criminal offence he shall be tried and sent to this working establishment. This would be the safest and best plan, in my opinion, for a government like ours to adopt in such cases. There are many decent, high minded men who drink their dram occasionally, and it will never do to pass laws to abridge their privileges in our present form of government.

I am opposed in part to our present plan of Taxation. No property should be taxed but such as was bringing a man an annual income—particularly dwelling houses. They should not be rated in the value of a man's land—it is discouraging that sort of assessment. I have heard several men say they would always live in their cabins before they would be at the expense of building a fine house and then be forever paying for it. It keeps back the improvement of our country, for men do not pride in other improvements so much, as they would if they had a fine house to set off the balance. The law passed at the last Legislature taxing Iron, Salt, and other articles of necessity brought from other States by the people to sell, should be repealed. I am for the people to have free trade in such articles, and get them as cheap as they can.

It is said by some candidates, and a great many other men too, that the four dollars a day is the inducing motive that causes men to become candidates for the Legislature. I dare say that is the moving cause of a great many, and when they get there they neglect their business so that their time may be protracted until they draw all the money in the Treasury. But I can say that is not the motive that has caused me to come before the people. Although I like very well to make money, I think the Legislature should pass a law to limit the time to about forty or fifty days, and if they did not attend close to business and get through in that time, their wages should be curtailed to one dollar per day. I do not know what business may come before the next Legislature, but I have reasoned upon some things which I think would be wholesome and good. Nevertheless, if the people do not see with me in what I have said, but will honor me with the authority of representing them in the next Legislature, I will lay open for instruction from my constituents, and do all in my power to facilitate their welfare. As I have said, it is not the four dollars a day that I am after—I am after the honor and applause of my fellow-citizens, for what I do, or attempt to do, for them, and I am not blind and ignorant in these things. I know very well my honor and applause would be very scant among my constituents if I did not act to please them.

Fellow-citizens, I am not put out as a candidate by either of the political parties. Seeing the evil of such things, I have come out of my own accord to be the servant of the people, and if I should be so highly honored as to be your representative in the next Legislature, in its deliberations on any subject matter, I shall not be very curious how or from what party it emanated, but according to my best judgment for the interest of the whole people is the way I shall act while there, unless otherwise instructed by my constituents of both parties.

Thus, fellow-citizens, I have honestly given you a view of my principles, and a sketch of my political views, and it does appear to me that every honest man in the district who wishes to get along through life smoothly and evenly, will give in to my policy, and will give me their support at the election, yet, if they cannot accept of my policy but will give me their suffrage they can instruct me otherwise.

I am respectfully, and will be the humble servant of the people,

JESSE C. MOORE.

A number of the English papers express alarm at the rapid increase of the mercantile marine of the United States, and particularly of ocean steamers. The London Naval Standard says:

"Whoever commands the sea, commands the trade of the world; whoever commands the trade of the world, commands the treasures of the world, and consequently the world itself." This same paper makes a stirring appeal to England, to wrest from "the people born yesterday," the "monopoly of the commercial transatlantic shipping connections between the old and new continents." Ah! Hah!

"James, now I will hear your lesson," said a schoolmaster to a little urchin who was not in the habit of studying much.—"Guess not, thir, papa thays liddle boyths should be threen and not heard."

Finish one job before you begin another.

Billy Waggle was apprenticed at the age of nine to a mechanic, but as he was small and young, his first year was spent in doing "chiores" about the house of his master. About the commencement of the second year of his domestic servitude, Billy was told one day to pick up a basket of chips. He reluctantly, but a few vigorous claps applied promiscuously about his face and ears by a feminine hand, induced him to "go and do as he was bid," and, as he was filling his basket, in a sulky mood, he soliloquized as follows:

"I don't care! so there I don't! I hain't got to pick up chips but eleven years longer, any how!"

The Massachusetts railroad carried twenty three millions of passengers last year.